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THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" I would suggest to the workers or their union to place the matter before the Labour Officer and Government will take necessary action in the matter."

Tuberculosis centres in the City of Madras.

* 1391 *Q*.—SRI A. RATNAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of tuberculosis centres in the City of Madras maintained by the Government;

(*b*) the amount of subsidy given to the Corporation of Madras for maintaining their tuberculosis centres in the year 1952 and what is the number of centres maintained by them; and

(*c*) the total number of patients treated outside and the in-patients admitted in the year 1952?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) One, Sir.

" (*b*) No subsidy was given to the Corporation by the Government for maintaining Tuberculosis clinics. But a subsidy of Rs. 12,500 is being paid to the Corporation of Madras for the maintenance of the Tuberculosis Hospital, Konnur High Road, maintained by the Corporation.

In the year 1952, the Corporation of Madras maintained one Tuberculosis hospital and five Tuberculosis clinics.

" (*c*) In the year 1952, 981 patients received in-patient treatment and 30,022 patients received out-patient treatment in the Tuberculosis institutions in the City of Madras."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" Sir, since the number of tuberculosis hospitals and clinics maintained is too meagre to meet the demands of the patients in Madras, is the Hon. Minister aware of the fact that in many cases the cards for admission are sent to patients after they reach their graves? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" It is true we have a fairly long list of waiting patients. The Government have at Tambaram a big sanatorium which is admittedly the biggest in this country and we are maintaining a Tubeculosis institute at Egmore for out-patient treatment."

Aid to Christian Backward Classes.

* 1392 *Q*.—SRI ANTONY PETER : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether all the economic and educational facilities enjoyed by the Hindu Backward Classes are extended to Christian Backward Classes; and

(*b*) if not, why not?

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THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) The Government are of the view that converts to Christianity from the Backward Classes are not so backward educationally, economically and socially as to require Government aid."

SRI M. PALANIYANDI :—" Sir, இந்த அரசாங்கம் மதசார்பற்ற அரசாங்கம் என்று சொல்லிக்கொண்டிருக்கிறார்கள். கிருஸ்தவ பிற்பட்ட தாழ்த்தப்பட்ட வகுப்பினர் மதத்தின் காரணமாக அந்த மதத்திற்கு மாறினார்கள். அப்படி மாறியும் அவர்கள் சமூகத்தில் பொருளாதாரத்தில் முற்போக்கு அடையவில்லை. ஆகையால் அரசாங்கம் கிருஸ்தவ பிற்பட்ட, தாழ்த்தப் பட்டவர்களுக்கு அதே சலுகைகளைக் கொடுக்க முன்வருமா ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, so far as scholarships are concerned, they are getting them. I do not know in what other respects the hon. Member wants concession."

SRI R. S. ARUMUGAM :—" ஸார், கிருஸ்தவ மதத்திற்கு மாறிய தாழ்த்தப்பட்டவர்களுக்கு இந்த சலுகைகளை ஏன் கொடுக்கவில்லை ? அவர்களுக்கும் இந்த சலுகைகளைக் கொடுப்பதற்கு அதாவது ஸ்காலர்ஷிப், ப்ரீபோர்டிங் முதலியவைகளைக் கொடுப்பதற்கு, சர்க்கார் யோசனை செய்யுமா என்று கேட்கிறேன்."

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, the question relates to Backward Classes and the hon. Member is referring to converts to Christianity who are certainly getting all the concessions."

SRI S. C. C. ANTHONY PILLAI :—" Sir, is it the contention of the Hon. Minister that baptism performs a miracle socially on the Backward Classes and the moment a man is baptised, he becomes a socially advanced person? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, it is not my individual opinion. At the meeting of the Backward Classes Advisory Committee, this question was discussed and the members of that Committee came to the decision that it was not necessary to give them the concessions that are given to the non-converts, except educational concessions."

SRI ANTONY PETER :—" எந்தக் கணக்கைக்கொண்டு சர்க்கார் கிருஸ்தவ பின் தங்கிய வகுப்பினர் முன்னேற்றமடைந்த சமூகத்தினர் என்று கருதுகிறார்கள் என்பதை கனம் மந்திரி அவர்கள் சொல்ல முடியுமா ? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, I am telling the House that educational concessions are given to them."

DR. K. B. MENON :—" Sir, in a secular State when relief is given or when effort is made to bring up the backward sections of the community, no distinction of caste or of religion or of community should be made and will the Government bear that in mind? "

THE HON. SRI B. PARAMESWARAN :—" Sir, the whole question will be considered by the Backward Classes Commission that has started working."